

Town of Locke, Commercial Structure
13943 River Road
Locke
Sacramento County
California

HABS No. CA-2071 E

HABS,
CAL,
34-LOCKE
1/5-

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS...

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. CA-2071 E

TOWN OF LOCKE

COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE

Location:

13943 River Road (County Road E-13; 13944 Main Street,
east side of River Road, west side of Main Street),
Locke, Sacramento County, California.

USGS Courtland Quadrangle
UTM Coordinates: 10/630470/4234460.

Present Owner:

Harold Suen
1567 Siskiyou Drive
Walnut Creek, California 95598

Building Owner

Asian City Development, Inc.
P.O. Box 987
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Land Owner

Present Occupant:

River Road Gallery.

Present Use:

Art Gallery.

Significance:

This wooden structure, typical of the two-story buildings
forming the Main and River Road street facades, has been
used as an ice cream parlor and restaurant, among other uses.
It is important to the architectural context of the street.

PART I. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural merit and interest: This false fronted wooden structure is typical of the early buildings of the town.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The rectangular, two-story building measures approximately twenty-seven feet on the three-bay front by sixty feet deep.
2. Foundation: Wooden piers and beams, raised above grade with a crawl space below.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Wooden drop siding with corner boards; east and west walls are painted white; north and south are unpainted. A false front is attached to the west facade.

4. Structural system, framing: Wooden frame construction.
5. Balcony and boardwalk: A covered concrete sidewalk fronts the east facade, sheltered by the wooden floored balcony above. The balcony floor and roof are supported by four wooden posts, connected by a wooden balustrade with hand rail and square balusters extending between each post and the wall. The balcony's shed roof is covered with corrugated sheet metal.

Across the west facade is a wooden boardwalk protected by a shed roof that is covered with corrugated sheet metal and supported by four wooden posts. Two wooden railings extend between the posts, turning and extending along each side of a wooden board bridge that leads to the road.

6. Chimneys: A clay flue projects through the north facade near the center of the building. The top section of the flue is metal. A similar clay flue projects through the south wall, but there is no flue extending along the face of the building.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The main entrance on the east facade is recessed into a splayed alcove and enters into the gallery. The double wooden doors are paneled, and topped by a one-light transom.

The main entrance on the west facade leads into a narrow hallway. The narrow doors each have two double-raised, vertical panels, and are topped by a three-light transom.

A paneled door on the south leads out from the kitchen to the exterior alley.

A single doorway leads from the hallway on the second floor to the balcony on the east. The wooden door has five horizontal panels, wooden surrounds, threshold and sill.

- b. Windows and shutters: First and second story windows are one-over-one light, double-hung sash, with wooden surrounds and framed screens. Some of the windows on the first story are boarded up. On the west facade below the boardwalk, are two six-light fixed sash windows and a very narrow band of glass extending across the face on each side of the wooden bridge. A wooden louvre window is in the false front and gable ends.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof with corrugated sheet metal covering.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: The box cornice returns at the gable ends and extends to a narrow overhang.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

- a. First floor: The entrance to the first floor on the east facade opens into the gallery space. To the left of the entrance is a long counter with a back bar along the south wall. Towards the southwest corner of the gallery is a storage room. A small kitchen extends across the west end of the building, under the board walk. In the kitchen is a brick counter with large holes for gas-fired wok pots.
- b. Second floor: The entrance to the second floor from the exterior is through a double doorway on the west facade, opening from the boardwalk into a narrow hallway. On the left is a small room with a window on the west wall. To the right is a double room that serves as a kitchen and lounge area and has a window on the west wall and two on the south. In the hallway is a stairway leading down to the first floor. The narrow hallway extends the length of the building, opening on the east end to an exterior balcony. Six small rooms are on the left and five on the right. They are now used as art studios and storage rooms. A small toilet is on the right side.

2. Flooring: Wooden flooring on both floors; some surfaces on the second floor are covered with linoleum.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: Painted narrow board paneling on the walls and ceilings on the first floor. On the second floor most walls and ceilings have painted beaded-board paneling and some are gypsum board. The paneled walls are trimmed with a cove molding at the ceiling and wall junctures.
4. Doorways and doors: On the first floor, doors have double-raised panels, some with glass panels in the upper section, and wooden surrounds.

Second floor doors are paneled, and most have a one-light transom with an insect screen panel on the hallway side.

5. Stairways: The narrow stairway leading down from the second floor has an iron pipe railing on part of the wall, and a solid panel railing on the lower half.
6. Special decorative features, trim, cabinet work: The counter in the first-floor gallery was formerly an ice cream counter. Behind the counter, the sink and ice cream box are still intact. The back box along the south wall has wooden uprights, and solid end panels supporting a molded frieze extending along the face and returning to the walls. Open shelves extend the full height of the back bar.

7. Mechanical equipment:

- a. Heating: Propane gas-fired heating unit.
- b. Lighting: Electrical lighting fixtures.

D. Site:

- 1. General setting and orientation: The building faces west on River Road and east on Main Street. It is flanked by similar wooden structures on each side, separated by an eight-foot narrow alleyway. On the west front at the edge of the wooden bridge is a large walnut tree. Below the bridge and extending across the west facade, is a wooden retaining wall with six very narrow wooden steps leading to the small plot of earth contained by the retaining wall. About three feet in front of the retaining wall is another wooden retaining wall, lower in height, that forms an areaway against the building. The retaining walls extend the length of River Road and the boardwalk.

Prepared by: John P. White
Project Supervisor
Historic American Buildings
Survey
July 1979

PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey in cooperation with the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation and the Chinese Historical Association of America. The recording project was completed during the summer of 1979 under the general direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS; Kenneth L. Anderson, Jr., Principal Architect; John P. White, Project Supervisor (Texas Tech University); Pamela O. Chang, Architectural Foreman (University of California, Berkeley); with student architects William F. Hand (Auburn University); Clemson Lam (University of Hawaii); at the HABS Field Office in Sacramento, California. The drawings were edited in the HABS Washington Office in January 1980 by staff architects William Graham and David Marsh. The written data was edited by staff historian Jan Cigliano during January-March 1980.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

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